

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU**  
(Criminal Jurisdiction)

**Criminal**  
**Case No. 22/1598 SC/CRML**

**PUBLIC PROSECUTOR**

**v**

**O'NEIL MOLI**

*Date:* 17 August 2022  
*Before:* Justice V.M. Trief  
*Counsel:* Public Prosecutor – Ms L. Lunabek  
Defendant – Mr L. Moli

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**SENTENCE**

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A. Introduction

1. Mr Moli pleaded guilty to theft (Charges 1, 4 and 6), attempted theft (Charge 2), unlawfully entering a dwelling house (Charges 3 and 5) and escape from lawful custody (Charge 7). He is convicted on his own pleas and the admitted facts.

B. Facts

2. On 2 October 2021, Mr Moli went into a little shop close to Sophie Nakamal. He took the Samsung A30 mobile phone that was charging in there. The shopkeeper Chikana Mera asked Mr Moli if he took her phone. Mr Moli denied it and ran out (Charge 1). Ms Mera chased after him and was met by Vincent Lui who had hold of Mr Moli.
3. Mr Lui had caught Mr Moli in the act of removing VT1,000, 2 flash drives and Vodafone refill cards worth VT40,000 from Mr Lui's vehicle registration number 20007 (Charge 2). They called the Police who came and took Mr Moli to the Police station.
4. On 4 October 2021, at night, Mr Moli entered Philippe Guyard's house at Seaside Showground area and took one iPad (Charges 3 and 4).
5. On 17 October 2021, Mr Moli removed 2 louvers from a window of the office of Pikinini Playtime School at Nambatu area and entered the office (Charge 5). He took an Alcatel phone, an Island Bag, a white WiFi device and VT7,000 from the cash box (Charge 6).





- c. Unlawful entry (Charges 3 and 5) 14 months imprisonment; and
- d. Escape from lawful custody (Charge 7) 12 months imprisonment.

16. The sentences are back-dated to commence from 28 June 2022 when Mr Moli was remanded in custody.

17. A strong deterrent element is required and to hold Mr Moli accountable for his offending.

18. Mr Moli has 14 days to appeal.

**DATED at Port Vila this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022  
BY THE COURT**

  
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Justice Viran Molisa Trief

